

To the Board of Directors of the Lawrence Free Public Library:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have the honor to submit herewith the twenty-eighth annual report for the year ending December 31, 1932.

A glance at the work of our library during the past ten years will reveal some interesting facts.

The population in 1932 was 88 less than in 1922.

The circulation of books increased 81% during the ten year period and the tax levy 31%.

The big jump in circulation was made during the two last years with a gain of 33%. Our appropriation during 1932 was 8% less than in 1930.

Notwithstanding this we are closing our year with a comfortable balance which will help us through another lean year.

Our reading rooms with the newspapers and current magazines are being used more and more by the unemployed and the students are finding much help with their work. The home reader has been our most frequent caller, carrying home an armload of books for the family. The constant use of our books has created a demand for more, both new books and for replacements.

We have catalogued during the year 1719 books, of these 358 were gifts. The memorial collection given us by the Round Table is one of the outstanding gifts of the year. We received a large number of books from the private libraries of Conrad Clark and Edith Hess.

We now have in our collection 25,274 volumes. We have withdrawn from circulation 769 and repaired in our mending department 2712 books. We receive currently 135 newspapers and periodicals, 50% of these are gifts.

We have a total reference collection of 4718 volumes. The children's department has a total collection of 4873 volumes.

Our books have circulated 136,387 times during the year, 20,106 more than in 1931. 75% more fiction was circulated than non-fiction. Our duplicate magazines were issued 1892 times. Our circulation per capita was 9.8.

Since August 1, 1932 we have enrolled 32.2% of our population. We have now 3199 adult patrons who registered during the last five months of the year and 1064 juvenile, a total of 4263. 239 were non-resident students, 49 were country patrons paying a fee. In addition 24 non-residents who are not included in the regular enrollment made deposits which were later refunded.

During National Book Week parents and teachers were guests of the Juvenile Department. 358 callers were registered during the week.